

[For additional information on the growth of business and industrial organization see category 433, 6: Spate AWI India.]

232 and wool growing industry in the State. For purposes
654 of research work, the Government have granted subsidy
to the Farm.

655 Forests which cover about one-eighth of the total area
313 of the State, and Forest industries provide a large field of
employment for skilled and unskilled workers, besides
yielding a large revenue to the Government. In recent
years, the Forest Department has shown particularly
good results. The net revenue of the Department for
1942-43 was Rs. 63.46 lakhs, which gives it precedence over
other parts of India. The demand for timber grown in the
State has increased considerably and owing to war condi-
tions it has brought good prices. Cultivation of pyreth-
rum has made good progress. The Rosin and Turpentine
Factory at Miransahib has done particularly well. The
factory has led to the establishment of a number of minor
private-owned industries and contributed to the develop-
ment of Miransahib into what promises to be a new
industrial town. The Half-wrought Factory at Baramulla
received orders exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs for 1942-43.

284 The feasibility of establishing a newsprint paper
industry in the State was investigated by Tata
Sons Ltd. with whom the Government have entered into
an agreement for a comprehensive investigation of
industrial possibilities in the State. But owing to the
impracticability of importing heavy machinery in the
742 present conditions, the proposition has to wait. A Drug
Research Laboratory has been established under the
expert guidance of Sir Ram Nath Chopra, its Director, and
it is expected that within a few months it will be in a
position to meet a part of the requirements of medical
institutions in the State. Another noteworthy industry is
322 Kashmir Willows, which besides manufacturing cricket bats
has taken in hand the production of other wooden articles
of great utility.

471 The establishment of a sugar mill at Miransahib near
Jammu, is in hand and the manufacturing operations
are expected to start early. The Shri Karan Singh
Woollen Mills and the Indianite Factory which are not
State-owned, but in which the Government have a sub-
stantial interest, have been kept busy executing orders
received from outside the State. Well established cottage
industries producing woollen fabrics, like *pattoos*, tweeds,
blankets, shawls, *namdas*, *gabbas*, papier-mache and

wooden articles, silver-ware, knittedware, leather and metal articles etc., are making steady progress. Two private joint stock concerns have taken up the manufacture of pearl barley, jams, oats etc. A number of minerals like Bentonite, Barytes, Sulphur, Borax, Gypsum, Ochres, China clay etc., are being worked. A canning factory has been constructed and a glass factory is under construction. 471

Tata Sons Ltd., inquired into the condition of the existing power installations in the Jammu and Kashmir Provinces, and the measures necessary for making them function satisfactorily. But, as in the case of newsprint paper, the necessary machinery could not be imported to work out this large scheme. Provision has, however, been made for improving the existing installations, particularly in Jammu area, where the demand for power exceeds the capacity of the present installations. The Government continue to have under consideration the establishment of new sources of power to feed the growing industries of the State. 371

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank started in 1938 has already declared a dividend. It has taken over the treasury at Srinagar and will soon be taking over the treasury at Jammu. It has established branches in a number of towns in the two provinces. 452 453

Because of its natural scenery and cheapness of living, Kashmir has long attracted visitors. A 'Visitors' Bureau has been in existence for the guidance of visitors. Recently His Highness' Government have turned their attention to the development of the tourist traffic. Small Tourist Bureaus have been established at Rawalpindi, Suchetgarh, Jammu, Domel, Pahalgam, Nagin and Ganderbal to assist visitors on the spot and guide them. A Boulevard has been constructed in Srinagar along the banks of the lake at Gagribal. This road has added to the beauty of Srinagar and provided a good, healthy place for morning and evening walks. A programme of providing more amenities to tourists, increasing the attractiveness of places of interest and extending the roads to beauty spots which are not easily accessible is being worked out. A hanging garden has been constructed at Gagribal for recreation of the visitors. The two islands, Rup Lank and Sona Lank, in Lake Dal have been improved. Pahalgam is being developed into an ideal hill station. To provide 477

D
161
B
161

The greatest increase in population has taken place in Kulu which registers a percentage of 227 increase over the last Census while Chilas on the other hand shows +303 per cent. increase. The case of Nagar is no doubt alarming as instead of an increase it shows a decrease of 516 persons or a variation of -363 per cent. In this blessed decennium therefore Nagar forms the one single exception of decrease of population in the State in contrast with all other tahsils which register all-round increases. The causes of variation have been explained by the Political Agent Gilgit in the following words :—

"All districts show an increase except Nagar which shows a decrease of 516. The increases are doubtless due to the healthy normal life of the past 10 years, peace and security having more than set balanced small epidemics of Influenza in 1919-1920. Nagar, however, is undoubtedly among the saturation point as regards population—space had now being very scarce. Moreover, the Influenza epidemic in 1919 took large toll as did an epidemic of Typhus in 1930."

K
161

22. General.—Having attempted to offer a detailed analysis of the growth of population in the different Administrative Divisions such as Provinces, Districts and Tahsils, and having also made detailed survey of the flourishing conditions of the decade responsible for producing such happy demographic results occasion is now ripe for us to take stock of our position and to bring the scattered data and arguments to a focus to enable proper penetration into the more intricate problems of population about which a promise was held out by us in the opening portion of this discussion.

K
[132]

The causes of the highly favourable growth of population which is almost on par with the All India increase (The decennial increase in the State being 98 per cent. against 106 per cent. of India) have already been studied in detail in the paragraphs dealing with the "Conditions of decade" but it would be advantageous to briefly review them here so that the reader may have an opportunity to refresh his memory and be better equipped to appreciate the theme. Sufficient, timely and well distributed rainfall (except for certain bad years of scarcity in the Mirpur and to some extent in Kathua district) bringing good harvests in its train effected a considerable improvement in the economic condition of the agriculturist and highly favoured the growth of population during the last ten years.

K
[164]

Exceptionally favourable conditions of public health in the decade which was characterised by the absence of severe epidemic of Influenza which during 1911-1921 inflicted greater mortality here than the Great World War. Although Plague in the Jammu Province, Cholera in Kashmir, mild Influenza and Typhus in the Frontiers did make occasional attacks but the prompt, vigorous and effective measures taken by the Medical authorities coupled with the co-operation of the people (who on account of the spread of education and accumulation of experience readily avail of the medical help and do a good deal to combat the disease) did not allow the epidemics to levy a high toll on the precious human life which consequently had a favourable occasion for rapid multiplication. Extension of irrigational facilities causing a considerable enlargement in the irrigated and irrigable area was further responsible for expansion of agricultural production. Improvement of communications especially the opening of the Banihal Cart Road, Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Akhaur and various other minor roads has imparted a good stimulus to trade resulting in increased prosperity of the people. Again the development of some of the industries and immediate possibilities of the growth of a larger number in the near future has besides providing employment to some people opened an era of hope for the youth of the country, who in the progressive permeation of the industrial atmosphere around him sees a magnificent vision of effective industrialisation in which lies the solution of the unemployment problem. Above all the prevalence of peaceful and orderly conditions ensuring security of life and property was highly conducive to the growth of population during the decade 1921-1931. In this connection it may be noted that the communal clashes and the political agitation in the State which created so much stir throughout the country commenced in July 1931 & c., after the close of the decade 1921-1930 which alone is under review in this report.